

## Message Text

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44

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /168 W

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P R 031025Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4532

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USDOD WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

CINCLANT

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 0022

CINCLANT, CINCEUR AND CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

OAGS: MARR

SUBJECT: U.S. NAVAL TASK FORCE IN INDIAN OCEAN

REF: STATE 252333 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. TANGOV OFFICIAL RAISES ISSUE OF MORE  
WARSHIPS JOINING US INDIAN OCEAN TASK FORCE AND REITERATES  
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TANZANIAN OPPOSITION TO SUCH A MOVE. END SUMMARY.

2. WILLIAM MBAGO, AMERICAN/EUROPEAN DIVISION, FONOFF, PHONED ME AT 0800 HOURS TODAY TO INQUIRE ABOUT "NUCLEAR POWERED DESTROYED" ABOUT TO JOIN OTHER US SHIPS IN INDIAN OCEAN. (FYI: GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY NEWS ON 2 JAN. PUBLISHED PAGE ONE STORY ABOUT USS BAINBRIDGE WITH HEADING: "US SENDS MORE SHIPS TO INDIAN OCEAN." END FYI.)

3. I SAID IN VIEW HIS INQUIRY I WOULD LIKE CALL ON HIM AND PRESENT FACTS OF SITUATION. HE AGREED AND WE MET AT 0900. ALSO PRESENT WAS BERNARD MUGANDA, WHO HEADS AMERICAN DESK AT FONMIN.

4. IN SUBSTANTIVE PART OF MEETING, I DREW ON GUIDANCE IN REFTTEL AND EXPLAINED ORISKANY IS AIRCRAFT CARRIER AND SAID, IN CONFIDENCE, IT DEPARTING INDIAN OCEAN ABOUT 15 JAN. I STRESSED OBVIOUS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SHIPS, JUT ADDED THAT REMOVAL OF CARRIER AND SENDING IN DESTROYER ESCORT CLASS SHIP SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AN ANY INDICATION OUR INTENTION ABOUT FUTURE DEPLOYMENTS IN AREA.

5. MBAGO THEN ASKED IF USG MOVE OF MAJOR WARCRAFT FROM AREA MEANT US NOW RECOGNIZING "ZONE OF PEACE" CONCEPT FOR INDIAN OCEAN. I REPLIED THIS IN NO WAY SPEAKS TO ISSUE OF "ZONE OF PEACE:" THAT U.S. CONTINUES RESERVE RIGHT DISPATCH ITS WARSHIPS WHERE EVER NEED ARISES ON "HIGH SEAS."

6. MBAGO SAID HE NO MILITARY EXPERT, BUT QUESTIONED RATIONALE FOR US HAVING WARSHIPS OF ANY KIND IN INDIAN OCEAN. I SAID, WHILE IT TRUE THAT EVEN AFTER 15 JAN. WE WILL HAVE VERY SMALL UNIT OF SHIPS IN OCEAN, I FELT TANZANIA AND OTHER LITTORAL STATES WOULD WELCOME BOTH REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF SHIPS IN AREA AND THEIR FIRE-POWER CAPABILITY.

7. FONMIN OFFICIAL SAID HE ALSO SPEAKING CANDIDLY AND WAS OBLIGED ADVISE ME TANGOV WOULD BE RELEASING STATEMENT CRITICAL OF US FOR BRINGING MORE NAVAL SHIPS IN OCEAN.  
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I REMINDED MBAGO OF BRIEFING I HAD JUST GIVEN HIM ON SUBJECT AND ASKED HOW HIS GOVERNMENT COULD BE SO PRECIPITOUS IN VIEW FACTS OF CASE. I ALSO QUESTIONED MBAGO ABOUT EXISTENCE OF NAVAL UNITS OF OTHER NATIONS IN OCEAN. HIS REPLY WAS HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT NOT AWARE OF REALITY OF CHARGES ABOUT SOVIET WARCRAFT IN OCEAN AND THAT IN ANY EVENT SOVIETS DID NOT SEEM RESIST "ZONE OF PEACE" IDEA AS USG DOES.

MGAGO SAID HE "UNDERSTOOD" GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HAD MADE "SOME ARRANGEMENTS ABOUT REFUELING OR BUNKERING RIGHTS" FOR SOVIET SHIPS AND THAT SOVIET TRAWLERS WERE WORKING OUT OF MAURITIUS.

8. FYI. DCM HAD LEFT NON-ATTRIBUTED PAPER DATED SPRING, 1973 ABOUT THE SOVIETS IN INDIAN OCEAN WITH MBAGO DURING OFFICE CALL REPORTED DAR'S 3644 OF 1 NOV 73. END FYI.

9. COMMENT: UNCERTAIN WHETHER TANGOV WILL WITHHOLD OR MODIFY ITS ATTACK ON US NAVAL VESSELS IN INDIAN OCEAN UNTIL PUBLIC STATEMENT MADE ANNOUNCING DEPARTURE OF ORISKANY. IN ANY EVENT, WE CONTINUE CONTRAST EXISTENCE OF SOVIET CRAFT, THEIR SIZE AND QUANTITY TO TANGOV. TANGOV CONCERN ABOUT INDIAN OCEAN REMAINS HIGH. SEE DAR 3630 FOR 30 OCTOBER STATEMENT ON SUBJECT. (CURIOUSLY ENOUGH, TANGOV ISSUED NO STATEMENT DURING US SHIP VISITS TO MOMBASA DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.) CARTER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECURITY, NAVAL CAPABILITIES, MILITARY VISITS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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